

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SECRET
INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

FLB
52COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)
SUBJECT The Freie Deutsche Jugend in
Mecklenburg

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SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

50X1-HUM

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1. The strength of the Freie Deutsche Jugend in the Russian Zone is approximately 400,000. The controlling body is the Central Council (Zentralrat) which sits in Berlin. The Central Council consists of six persons:

Fonnecker, Erich	1st Chairman (SED)	[REDACTED]	50X1-HUM
Eratsch, Horst	2nd Chairman (SED)	[REDACTED]	
Faumann, Edith	Prior to 1933 belonged to the Sozialistische Arbeiter Partei.		
Axen, Hermann	(SED).		
Reimann, fnu	(SED).		
Verner, Paul	(SED).		

2. The strength of the FDJ in Land Mecklenburg is approximately 75,000. The controlling body is the Landessekretariat, which consists of the following personnel:

Borde, Waldemar	1st Chairman (SED).		
Erie, Horst	2nd Chairman (SED), Organizational chief		
Grutmacher, Werner	Chief of personnel (SED)		
Fitkau, Fritz	Labor and Rural Youth (SED)		
Chotzen, Werner	Education (SED)	[REDACTED]	50X1-HUM
Chotzen, Ula	Culture, wife of above	[REDACTED]	
Zimmermann, fnu	Press and Propaganda, (SED)		50X1-HUM
Bunge Karl-Heinz	Sport, (SED)		

3. The Land Committee (Landesvorstand) consists of twenty persons which include the personnel of the Sekretariat, a representative from each of the political parties [REDACTED]

4. Members' dues vary between twenty and fifty pfennigs monthly. Those aged 21 and above pay the top rate. Of these dues, 30 percent goes to the Land Committee, which maintains thirty full-time employees.

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PDA Memo, 4 Apr 77

Auth: PDA REC. 77-11507

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5. Administrative bodies also make contributions to the organizations of the FDJ at their own level, thus:

Land Government	pays RM 30,000 monthly to the Land Committee.
Landrats' Offices	pay RM 30,000 monthly to the appropriate FDJ Kreis Committee (Kreisvorstand -- (twenty in Mecklenburg).
7 Kreis free cities	pay RM 30,000 monthly to the appropriate Kreis Committee
Smaller towns	pay c. RM 1,000 monthly to the appropriate Ortsgruppe.

In addition, the FDGB and the SED in Mecklenburg have each to date contributed RM 20,000 to the FDJ. The balance standing to the credit of the Land Committee in April 1947 was RM 1,100,000.

6. There are two FDJ Land Youth Schools (Landesjugendschulen) in Mecklenburg. They are:

Surg Starzard. Kreis Neubrandenburg. Director is Alfred Hande, (SED)

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Schloss Semper, Island of Rügen. Director is Karl Heinz, (SED)

In addition there is a Bezirksjugendschule at Bad Kleinen. Plans have been made to build a school in every Kreis, but only three have so far been established.

7. The courses at these Land schools last one month, with an average attendance of forty students. The curriculum, which is planned by the Schools Division (Abteilung Schulung) of the SED Landessekretariat, is the same as that of the SED political schools with the addition of normal youth activities such as sport, etc.
8. The FDJ is looked upon by the SMA as its own progeny and a very special interest is shown in its activities. There is a youth officer attached to every Kommandatura to whom the local youth leaders submit a weekly report on their activities. SED leaders look upon the FDJ as their own youth movement. Paul Verner of the Central Committee of the SED and the Central Council of the FDJ, in a discussion in Schwerin in August, 1947, said: "The FDJ must appear to be a youth organization politically neutral, but between ourselves it is the youth organization of the SED."
9. There is no control exercised over the FDJ by the SED below the Land level. The chain of command of the FDJ is parallel to that of the SED and many functionaries of the SED at lower levels (i.e. Kreis and Ortsgruppe) are also functionaries in the FDJ.
10. The attitude toward former members of the Hitler Jugend is tolerant and many ex-HJ leaders now have positions in the FDJ. A former Hitler Youth leader, who also holds the Ritterkreuz, is in the Central Council of the FDJ. Political leadership, however, is firmly in the hands of the Communists.
11. Normal activities of the FDJ consist of two evening meetings weekly. One is spent in discussion of current political affairs (as directed from above) and the other in social activity. In addition, there are sporting events organized on weekends.

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